

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LAGOS 09332 01 OF 02 280922Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 AID-05 HA-05 ACDA-12 EB-08
TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 COME-00 /095 W
-----118905 280934Z /10

R 280800Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9736
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
JCS WASHDC
CSA WASHDC
CNO WASHDC
CSAF WASHDC
CMC WASHDC
DISAM WP AFB OH
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 LAGOS 9332

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, MPOL, XX, SHUM, NI
SUBJECT: SECURITY ASSISTANCE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

REF: A) STATE 167901, B) STATE 168320, C) STATE 182987

1. ON BASIS OF REFTELS AND ADDITIONAL MESSAGES
FROM USCINCEUR WE OFFER OUR INTERPRETATION OF
WHAT IS REQUIRED. FOLLOWING ANSWERS ARE KEYED
TO PARAS IN REFTEL A.

2. 3A(1)

U.S. STRATEGIC INTERESTS. OIL RICH NIGERIA IS
THE MOST POPULOUS COUNTRY IN AFRICA, HAS THE
POTENTIAL FOR BECOMING ONE OF THE STRONGEST MILITARILY,
AND HAS AN INFLUENTIAL VOICE IN INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LAGOS 09332 01 OF 02 280922Z

IT IS THE SECOND LARGEST SUPPLIER OF CRUDE OIL TO
THE UNITED STATES. NIGERIA IS BECOMING EVEN
MORE IMPORTANT TO US BECAUSE OF THE GROWING MAGNITUDE
OF U.S. DIRECT PRIVATE INVESTMENT AND TRADE.

US SECURITY ASSISTANCE OBJECTIVES. (1) MAINTAIN
GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE NIGERIAN FEDERAL MILITARY

GOVERNMENT. (2) CONTINUE AND PROMOTE U.S. ACCESS TO NIGERIA'S MILITARY. (3) ASSIST THE NIGERIANS TO REMAIN INDEPENDENT OF OTHER FOREIGN POWERS, SUCH AS THE SOVIET UNION, FOR ARMAMENTS. (4) HELP PROTECT AND FURTHER U.S. DIRECT PRIVATE INVESTMENTS AND SALES TO NIGERIA. (5) SAFEGUARD U.S. ACCESS TO NIGERIA'S NATURAL RESOURCES ON AN EQUAL BASIS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES. (6) RETAIN USE OF NIGERIAN AIRSPACE AND PORT FACILITIES.

3. 3A(2)

INTERNAL THREAT. INTERNAL SECURITY IS ALWAYS SOMEWHAT TENUOUS IN NIGERIA OWING TO ETHNIC AND REGIONAL RIVALRIES. HOWEVER, IT HAS DETERIORATED SOMEWHAT DURING THE PAST SIX MONTHS AS THE RESULT OF A NEW LAND DECREE, TIGHTER BUDGET AND ASSOCIATED ECONOMIC CHANGES, CONTROVERSY IN THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY PITTING MUSLIMS AGAINST NON-MUSLIMS, STUDENT DISORDERS, A DOCTORS' STRIKE, AND REPORTED DISSATISFACTION AMONG MIDDLE-RANKING OFFICERS. THE FMG HAS MANAGED TO KEEP THE LID ON BY ABRUPTLY ADJOURNING THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, QUELLING THE STUDENT DISORDERS WITH THE HELP OF TRADITIONAL LEADERS, ARRIVING AT A COMPROMISE WITH THE DOCTORS, AND REASSIGNING GOVERNORS AND

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LAGOS 09332 01 OF 02 280922Z

FEDERAL COMMISSIONERS IN A MOVE THAT SIMULTANEOUSLY APPEASED THE MIDDLE-RANKING OFFICERS AND RE-AFFIRMED TO THE POPULACE AS A WHOLE THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO RETURN THE COUNTRY TO CIVILIAN RULE IN 1979.

EXTERNAL THREAT. THERE APPEARS TO BE NO IMMINENT EXTERNAL THREAT TO NIGERIA FROM ITS NEIGHBORS.

4. 3A(3)

WE BELIEVE THE FMG'S STRATEGIES HAVE SLOWED THE DETERIORATION OF THE INTERNAL SECURITY SITUATION THAT HAS BEEN TAKING PLACE DURING THE PAST FEW MONTHS. WE DO NOT BELIEVE A COUP ATTEMPT OR A POSTPONEMENT OF THE RETURN TO CIVILIAN RULE IS LIKELY IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

5. 3A(4)

TO MEET NIGERIA'S REQUIREMENTS THE FMG

BELIEVES IT NEEDS: AN ARMY OF 150,000 WITH EQUIPMENT FROM VARIOUS SOURCES TO BE GRADUALLY MODERNIZED; AN AIR FORCE CAPABLE OF TRANSPORTING MEN AND EQUIPMENT VIA FIXED WING AND ROTARY WING AIRCRAFT AND WITH A STRIKE CAPABILITY BASED ON GROUND, ATTACK AND AIR DEFENSE WINGS; A NAVY WITH MEN AND EQUIPMENT CAPABLE OF PROVIDING SECURITY FOR NIGERIA'S COAST AND OFFSHORE AREAS.

6. 3A(5)

OWING TO A MINIMAL THREAT FROM NEIGHBORS, NIGERIA'S ARMY COULD BE CONSIDERABLY SMALLER WITH NO DELETERIOUS EFFECT ON ITS SECURITY. ITS AIR-CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 LAGOS 09332 01 OF 02 280922Z

FORCE TRANSPORT NEEDS ARE VALID AND ITS STRIKE CAPACITY DESIRES, WHILE NOT JUSTIFIED BY ANY PERCEIVED THREAT, ARE CONSISTENT WITH MAINTAINING A BALANCED MILITARY FORCE. NIGERIA'S NAVAL REQUIREMENTS ARE VALID. INCREASING MERCHANT SHIPPING, FISHING, AND INCIDENCE OF OFFSHORE OIL INSTALLATIONS MAKE MAINTENANCE OF SECURITY IN THIS AREA A DEFINITE NEED DESPITE THE ABSENCE OF A MILITARY THREAT.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LAGOS 09332 02 OF 02 280932Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 AID-05 HA-05 ACDA-12 EB-08
TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 COME-00 /095 W
-----119073 280934Z /11

R 280800Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9737
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
JCS WASHDC
CSA WASHDC
CNO WASHDC
CSAF WASHDC

CMC WASHDC
DISAM WP AFB OH
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 LAGOS 9332

7. 3A(6)

WE ESTIMATE DEFENSE SPENDING AS FOLLOWS:

1978/79
(IN MILLIONS OF \$)
EXPENDITURE TOTAL BUDGET DEFENSE SPENDING
CAPITAL 4368.0 1106.0
RECURRENT 8112.0 932.9

TOTAL 12,480.0 2038.9

DEFENSE SPENDING IS THUS 16.3 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL
BUDGET AND WE ESTIMATE IT TO BE 6.2 PERCENT OF A
TOTAL GDP OF \$32,625.3 MILLION. WE ARE UNABLE
TO GIVE MILITARY IMPORTS AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL
IMPORTS AS NIGERIAN STATISTICS DO NOT LIST END
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LAGOS 09332 02 OF 02 280932Z

USERS. NIGERIA'S FOREIGN EXCHANGE AND DEBT
SERVICING PROBLEMS ARE PRACTICALLY NONEXISTENT.

8. 3A(10)

N.A. THE ONLY PROPOSED SALE IS THAT OF PER-
SONNEL TRAINING. A CONTRACT FOR HELICOPTER SALES
THAT EXPIRED IN JULY 1978 MAY BE RENEGOTIATED IN
THE FUTURE.

9. 3A(11)

INDEPENDENT SINCE 1960, NIGERIA PROMULGATED A
CONSTITUTION IN 1963. HOWEVER, SEVERAL MILITARY
COUPS AND A CIVIL WAR SINCE 1966 BROUGHT A FEDERAL
MILITARY GOVERNMENT (FMG) INTO POWER. THE
FMG GENERALLY ENFORCES THE BROAD HUMAN RIGHTS
GUARANTEES OF THE 1963 CONSTITUTION ALTHOUGH
THERE ARE ODDASIONAL EXCEPTIONS WITH REGARD TO
ARBITRARY ARREST OR IMPRISONMENT WHEN THE GOVERNMENT
BELIEVES A QUESTION OF INTERNAL SECURITY OR
OTHER EMERGENCY EXISTS. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THESE
ARE OF A MAGNITUDE OR FREQUENCY TO AFFECT THE
SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. IT SHOULD BE
NOTED THAT THE FMG IS GENUINELY COMMITTED TO

TURNING POWER OVER TO A CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT BY
OCTOBER 1979 AND HAS ESTABLISHED A CONSTITUENT
ASSEMBLY TO PRODUCE A NEW CONSTITUTION.

10. 3A(12)

IN LINE WITH NIGERIA'S NONALIGNED STATUS,
FUTURE PURCHASES OF EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES WILL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LAGOS 09332 02 OF 02 280932Z

CONTINUE TO BE MADE FROM A NUMBER OF SOURCES.

11. 3A(13)(F)

THE MANNING LEVEL FOR CURRENT AND INTERMEDIATE
WOULD REMAIN THE SAME (ONE U.S. MILITARY, ONE
PART-TIME LWR SECRETARY AND ONE LWR DRIVER/COURIER.)
THE LWR PART-TIME SECRETARY WOULD NOT BE NEEDED
AT THE MINIMUM LEVEL. BASED ON AN ESTIMATE THAT U.S.
MIGHT SUPPLY NIGERIA WITHIN NEXT FIVE YEARS WITH
SIX HELICOPTERS, SIX C-130'S, APPROXIMATELY
20 PERSONNEL CARRIERS AND A SIZEABLE QUANTITY OF
ARTILLERY PIECES, IN ADDITION TO TRAINING
SUBSTANTIALLY LARGER NUMBERS OF PERSONNEL, WE ESTIMATE
MANNING REQUIREMENT AT INCREMENTAL LEVELS AS FOLLOWS:
ONE U.S. MILITARY, TWO FULL-TIME LWR SECRETARIES, ONE
PART-TIME LWR SECRETARY AND ONE LWR DRIVER/COURIER.
WYMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, SECURITY, MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LAGOS09332
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780309-1128
Format: TEL
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780710/aaaaaidu.tel
Line Count: 256
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4337c06a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 167901, 78 STATE 168320, 78 STATE 182987
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1844896
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECURITY ASSISTANCE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
TAGS: MASS, MPOL, SHUM, XX, NI
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4337c06a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014